



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Textbook Adoption Coordinators

FROM: Division of College and Career Readiness Curriculum

DATE: February 4, 2014

SUBJECT: 2014 Curricular Material Adoption Guidance

Public Law 73-2011 gave schools flexibility in adopting curricular materials by eliminating the 6-year adoption cycle requirement. However, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) understands many schools have chosen to continue the 6-year adoption cycle. As a result, the IDOE advises schools to postpone adoption of curricular materials until the approval of the new English Language Arts, mathematics, and social studies standards by the State Board of Education (SBOE). Upon approval by the SBOE, schools will be able to adopt curricular materials that align with those new standards.

Additionally, the IDOE would like to remind schools of the major changes resulting from PL 73-2011. They are:

- Local superintendents now set procedures for local textbook adoption. Previously, teachers were required to compose a majority of the membership of the local textbook committee and parents were to compose no less than 40% of the committee. These requirements have been lifted and are at the discretion of the local superintendent.
- With the exception of reading, the SBOE no longer will produce a list of approved textbooks. Schools can adopt materials that they determine meet the needs of their students. Specific information regarding reading textbook adoption is forthcoming.
- Schools will no longer be required to submit textbook waivers.
- The previous adoption schedules have been repealed, meaning the textbook adoption no longer follows a strict 6-year cycle. Schools can continue to use materials beyond the 6-year period without needing a waiver from the state.
- Textbook rental remains capped at 25% of the purchase price per year for a period of 6 years, and at 15% per year after 6 years.
- Loans for textbooks no longer are restricted to the effective period of adoption by the SBOE.

- Schools will need to ensure that books comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(23)(A) and 1474(e)). Specifically, a publisher must provide textbook materials in NIMAS format and obtain NIMAC certification, or grant a license to the school corporation to allow for the reproduction of adopted textbooks in (1) large type; (2) Braille; and (3) audio format. If this criterion is not met, schools may not purchase materials from the publisher.

If you have questions about this template, please contact Jeremy Eltz (jeltz@doe.in.gov) or Peggy Wild (pwild@doe.in.gov)